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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twentieth Annual Convention
AND REUNION

OF THE

LOUISIANA DIVISION

United Confederate Veterans

HELD IN THE

CITY OF OPELOUSAS, LA.

ON

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 28, 29 and 30, 1910

THOS. J. SHAFFER, Major-General Commanding.

L. H. GARDNER, Adjutant-General and Chief-of-Staff.

M. L. COSTLEY, Assistant Adjutant-General.

MINUTES
OF THE
Twentieth Annual Reunion Louisiana Division
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS
Opelousas, La., September 28, 29, 30, 1910

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Twentieth Annual Reunion of the Louisiana Division, United Confederate Veterans, was held in Opelousas, La., in the Courthouse, beginning Wednesday, September 28, 1910.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28.

3 P. M.—The ceremonies began at this hour by the Confederate Veterans, the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, the official ladies, sponsors, maids of honor with their chaperons, and visiting friends, assembled at New La Combe Hotel, to exchange greetings, and to be assigned quarters.

At 7:30 P. M., the United Confederate Veterans and United Sons of Confederate Veterans assembled at the Courthouse, with the sponsors, maids of honor, and chaperons of their respective divisions, when very interesting exercises, interspersed with patriotic songs, were held, for the purpose of conferring badges on the said ladies. The public being invited, a large and appreciative audience was present, and seemed highly entertained.

At 9 P. M., a most enjoyable reception was tendered the two Divisions, their sponsors, maids of honor, and chaperons, by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Cretin, at the New LaCombe, in the banquet hall, where delicious refreshments were served, and the playing of "Dixie," "Bonnie Blue Flag," and other Southern patriotic airs, served to make every one oblivious to the present, and for a few short hours seemed living in the stirring times of fifty years ago.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 29.

At 10 A. M., Chairman, Comrade E. T. Lewis, representing the Citizens' Entertainment and Reception Committee, with a few well-timed, and feeling remarks, called the meeting to order.

"Dixie" was sung with enthusiasm by the entire meeting, thrilling the audience, which filled the room to its utmost capacity.

Chairman Lewis then introduced the Rev. May, who pronounced the Invocation in a beautiful and eloquent prayer, which brought tears to many eyes, as the trials and hardships of the gray-headed Veterans encountered on the field of battle, were touched on.

Song by Opelousas Chorus—"Lôrena"—Beautifully and touchingly rendered.

The Chairman then introduced Comrade, Maj. A. B. Anderson, a member of Camp R. E. Lee No. 14, U. C. V., who delivered the address of welcome. This gray-haired and distinguished Veteran made his bow before his old comrades in arms, and the assembled inhabitants of Opelousas, amidst great applause, and delivered the following eloquent and appropriate address:

ADDRESS OF MAJOR A. B. ANDERSON.

"Ladies and Gentlemen; Comrades:

"Were I permitted to indulge the sensibilities of my nature, I would most gladly have shunned the distinguished honor, unworthily thrust upon me by my comrades; but, as it is a soldier's duty to obey, I respond to the command of R. E. Lee Camp No. 14, to appear on this occasion in their behalf, to extend you a welcome. Words of welcome are meaningless things, unless accompanied by the warm handclasp, the sincere heartfelt greeting, the twinkle of the glad eye, and the bright smile of pleasure. All of which, I assure you, you will receive from the hospitable citizens of the historic old city of Opelousas. You will hear eloquent words of welcome from the lips of inspired orators, which I adjure you to cherish as the emanations of sincere and honest hearts. For our doors, and arms, and hearts, are wide open to-day to receive with sincere welcome the guests who have honored us by their presence, the bravest of

brave heroes, and the noblest of gallant gentlemen, the assembled Confederate Veterans of the State of Louisiana. And to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, upon whose shoulders our mantles are soon to fall, and into whose hands and charge we shall bequeath, as a rich legacy, the perpetuation of the names and deeds of their sires.

"It is unnecessary to say welcome to the Daughters of the Confederacy; they are the brightest jewels in Dixie's crown of glory! The cardinal principle of every Southerner's life is honor and affection for the Southland's noble women—the world's fairest, loveliest, and best.

"Whose hearts are on their lips, and souls within their eyes, Soft as their clime, and sunny as their skies."

"I will refrain from a special welcome to them, because women are the rulers of creation, and are cordially welcomed everywhere. My Comrades! I believe in these reunions. They are interesting, they are impressive, in any sense to me, enjoyable. The memories awakened by these reunions are pure and elevating, the promise given is high and ennobling, ennobling not only to men and women, who had passed through the storm of war, but also, and especially, to persons who were unborn two score years ago, they evidence the spirit that sustained the Confederacy,—the spirit, not of pugnaciousness, or belligerency, or sectional animosity, but rather the spirit of gentleness, and of courage, and of constancy,—the spirit that makes men willing to die for an idea. You hear it in the glad-some voices of the people. It glows in their happy countenances. It shines from their hopeful eyes. Even things inanimate, seem for a moment instinct with the temper of the hour, as seen by the decorations, flags, and bunting everywhere, with the 'Stars and Bars,' and the 'Stars and Stripes,' reflecting the patriotic spirit that swept over the South nearly fifty years ago; the spirit that was quenched, not when the 'Conquered Banner' was furled at Appomattox. It is not permitted such a spirit to perish. Like the breath of the holy man it die not with the prophet, but survives him. It becomes translated, and transfused, prompting men and women everywhere to a wider and wiser humanity. It is to-day the most valuable asset that the people of the South bring to a household once dissevered, but now happily restored. The South knows it; the North feels it; the world understands it. It is well that this truth is everywhere appreciated. Rome built monuments in honor, alike of Sulla, and Marius, of Brutus, and of Cæsar. The 'Red Rose' and the 'White Rose' are now intertwined in the garland of Britain's glory. Britishers love not

England the less because their ancestors charged in opposing squadrons at Naseby, and Marston Moor, or fought under different flags at Bannockburn. The most loyal subjects of the Austrian Empire are the Hungarians, who fought valiantly against Austrian coercion. In all this may be found a lesson that he who runs may read, and he who reads it aright will be better for the instruction. In the divine plan, true nobility of character is not destined to pass into nothingness. The heart of the South—warm, impulsive, and constant—is purified, and strengthened, by reason of these Confederate reunions.

“Here have been lighted again fires of patriotism that incited the fathers to cross the seas, to settle the new world, to conquer the forest and savage, and to win a continent into the circle of civilization. The lamp burns in undiminished and undiminishing brightness. In contemplating this impressive scene, we take fresh hope, and fresh strength for the work that lies before us.

“In this wide Southern country of ours, no young Hannibal has taken an oath of vengeance. On the contrary each son of the South has been taught by his father to love his country, and his whole country, with a devotion that no power can ardor for the meteor flag, his courage advanced so high and so far. The Confederacy is dead. It is a thing of history, honored and glorious. The men who made it, and sustained it, are, with the quick going years, speedily passing from earth. They are, as were those who have ‘gone before,’ literally a royal race of men, illustrating in life the ideals of true nobleness. The South loved them in 1861, and loves them still. To them is due whatever is now of enduring value in our social and political life. Understanding who their men are, and what they have done in peace, as well as in war, the South has nothing for which to apologize. She believes that the late struggle between the States was war, and not rebellion; revolution, and not conspiracy; and that her convictions were as honest as the North’s. The South has, indeed, nothing to take back.

“The lamented Henry W. Grady, of Georgia, once said to a New England audience: ‘In my native town of Athens is a monument that crowns a central hill—a plain, white shaft. Deep cut into its shining side is a name, dear to me above the names of men—that of a brave and simple man, who died in brave and simple faith. Not for all the glories of New England, from Plymouth Rock all the way, would I exchange the heritage he left me in his soldier’s death. To the foot of that monument I shall send my children’s children to reverence him who ennobled their names with his heroic blood. But Sir! speaking from the shadow of that memory which I honor

as I do nothing else on earth, I say that the cause in which he suffered, and for which he gave his life, was adjudged by a higher and fuller wisdom than his. And I am glad that the omniscient God held the balance of battle in His almighty hand, and that human slavery was swept forever from American soil, and the American Union was saved from the wreck of war.’

“This is the sentiment that is cherished by the people of the South, by the Confederate Veterans, and the sons and daughters of Confederate Veterans. Thank God, no man can change the past. Its records are written and sealed, and there can be no interlineations, or amendments. We must open and read the pages as they were recorded by Fate. Beyond this we ask not to go. The love of truth is one of the noblest impulses which can touch the human heart, and by all the glories of the past, we demand that the truth shall be known, and declared. Any Southern soldier, man or woman, who asks less is a craven, and he who takes less is a coward. With a patience that everywhere excites admiration, the South waited for a time of vindication. That time has come. Hundreds of thousands of pages have been written to tell the story of Southern conflict, and Southern struggle. More will yet be written, more must be written. The full truth will never be told. We only ask that the fullest possible truth be made known. And, year by year, the association, with diminished numbers, but with increasing zeal, demands from every possible source that truth shall be gathered. Southern people are willing to go under the lime-light of history. There are no stains upon the escutcheon of the Confederacy, and the fiercer the light, the more penetrating the methods of examination. And the more powerful the lens through which the past shall be viewed, the better satisfied will be the people of the South. Through the gloom and terrors of four years of conflict, through the horrors of wrongs of reconstruction, with its ravages, and its crimes, through the days of misrepresentation, and malicious slander of its acts, the men and women of the South bore themselves with dignity of manner, a peace of soul, and a calmness and consciousness of right which commanded the admiration, and respect of foes and friends alike. One great duty remains. Its obligations do not lessen, but hourly increase. As the Confederate survivors, year by year, under the stern laws of nature, and the exactions of the great enemy, grow fewer and fewer, and the accelerating mortality rate, with its remorseless finger, points to the grave as the common goal of all who followed the flag of our nation, the sense of duty and obligation should grow apace with the briefness of years that are left, and arouse every son and

daughter of the South to a faithful and prompt performance of all that will keep not only untarnished, but radiant, the story of who, and what the Confederate people were, and to write ineffaceably upon the pages of history the extent, as well as the splendor, of Confederate achievement. It is our duty to collect, preserve, and transmit every detail and incident of that sanguinary strife.

“In the future some historian shall come forth, strong and wise,

With a love of the republic, and truth before his eyes.

He will show the subtle causes of the war between the States,

He will go back in his studies far beyond our modern dates.

He will trace our hostile ideas as a miner does his lodes,

He will show the different habits of different social codes;

He will show the Union riven, and the picture will deplore,

He will show it reunited, and stranger than before.

Slow and patient, fair and truthful, must the coming teacher be,

To show how the knife was sharpened that was ground to prune the tree.

He will hold the scales of justice, he will measure praise and blame,

And the South will stand the verdict, and stand it without blame.”

Music.

WELCOME TO SONS OF VETERANS.

Honorable R. Lee Garland was introduced, who delivered the address of welcome to the United Sons of Confederate Veterans in touching, thrilling, and eloquent language. He paid a high tribute to the Confederate Veterans, saying that the highest honor claimed by him, was that he was a son of a Confederate veteran.

Song—by Opelousas Choir.

Honorable M. Halphen, Mayor of the City of Opelousas, extended to the Veterans a cordial and generous welcome; saying: “Confederate Veterans, as the head of the City Government of our ‘dear old town,’ I not only extend you a double welcome, but I want to tell you, the town and her people are yours to use as you please”; and turning to General Shaffer, of the Louisiana Division, said: “General, I now take pleasure

in turning over to you the key, not only of the City of Opelousas, but to the hearts of her people,” and thereupon handed General Shaffer a large key, beautifully gilded, and decorated with ribbons, representing the Confederate colors.

In accepting this testimonial of the true hospitality of the citizens of Opelousas, General Shaffer said: “Mr. Mayor, in accepting this key, I do not know how to express my gratitude, in behalf of the Louisiana Division, U. C. V., for this evidence of your hospitality. I shall cherish and preserve this memento with a great deal of pride; at the same time, Mr. Mayor, it is utterly useless to me, in a material way, because I have not seen a lock on any of the doors in Opelousas, since we arrived; they are *all* wide open.”

Music.

The Chairman then introduced Comrade, Major Geo. W. Tichenor, President Confederate States Cavalry, Camp 9, U. C. V., who delivered the following eloquent response to the welcome extended the Veterans:

“Mr. Commander of Louisiana Division, U. C. V., Opelousas Progressive League, Honorable Mayor of Opelousas, U. S. C. V., U. D. C., Comrades and Friends:

“It has fallen to my lot to respond to the eloquent addresses of welcome to our Comrades in convention assembled. The Louisiana Division highly appreciates every word uttered by the speakers, and our hearts are thrilled at the recital of events that stirred the souls of men and women from 1861 to 1865. We thank each and every one of Opelousas for his hearty welcome of good cheer, and noble impulses. Your smiles lighten our footsteps, and will make our stay with you long to be remembered by our comrades.

“Permit me to call attention of Confederate descendants to conditions, and the prevailing sentiments that existed in our ranks from 1861 to the close of hostilities. As my mind wanders back to that period, I cannot avoid the question that arises in my mind: What manner of man was the Confederate soldier?

“My reply: He was the enthusiastic cavalier, without the fiery zeal of the fanatic. He was the devoted, loving patriot, without suspicion of mercenary motives. He was the tender, gentle father, who parted with his prattling infant, as he should

dered his musket and marched away, not with stern gesture of the Puritanic stoic, but with the earnest sorrow of the Christian gentleman. He was the Chevalier Bayard of Southern Knighthood, who placed the farewell kiss on the pale forehead of his bride, and tried in vain to chase from his own face the emblems of keen anguish and regret as he smiled to her with confidence and hope. He was the impersonation from whose shield shone the bright image of truth. In his heart dwelt unspeakable fondness for his Southland; to women he bore himself with gallant tenderness. When the bugle called to arms in the year 1861, no soldier ever set about a task with such alacrity and determination, and when the Confederate Government sprung into existence, without a ship, a soldier, or a gun; without financial credit at home, or commercial standing abroad, yet with a full knowledge of all these disadvantages and difficulties, the Confederate soldier left his wife or mother, brushing the tear of love from his manly cheek, and stepped from his home of comfort into the firing line of death, with the sunlight of high-born courage falling full in his face, often humming the words of that now world-renowned song, 'In Dixie's land I'll take my stand, to live and die in Dixie,' and thus not counting the cost, nor the consequence, putting his trust in his God, he marched and fought like a hero by day, and by night, in storm and sunshine.

"Can you find his parallel in all the history of the ages? Six men in the Confederate army at the close of the war, fighting against twenty-eight men of the Federal army, until completely exhausted—not conquered, for that word is not in the lexicon of chivalry of our manhood. His return to his desolate home, his slaves free, his plantations laid waste, with the very sky hungry above his head, and the earth as it were parched beneath his feet, he did not give up in despair, but took up his new task, making the most orderly and law-abiding citizen.

"The four years of battle strife and bloodshed could not corrupt his incorruptible heart—you could not make a ruffian of the Southern gentleman. He took his rightful place at the head of the civic procession, encouraged every enterprise for the upbuilding of his blackened and ruined home and country.

"Thus, from the crosses of war, came heroes to wear the civic crowns.' The civil war over, the record is being made up, the judgment of history is being declared and published with here and there a discordant note. The voice of history pronounces eulogism on the Confederate soldier, whose fame is being perpetuated by the erection of monuments all over the Southland. It is said, and I believe it, 'A country without monuments is devoid of heartfelt sentiment.'

"Again, an address from a Confederate soldier would be incomplete without grateful acknowledgment to the noble women of the South. They were truly our companions, our support, our guardian angels during that long, weary, and bloody period of the war. Their graces, their courage, their constancy, their prayers, lightened our difficulties, relieved our trials, and assuaged even the humiliation of our defeat. God help them for their patience with which they endured privations, and the cheerfulness with which they gave up luxuries for the cause they loved. Who can describe her conduct during the wonderful drama of a thousand bloody battlefields?

"The Confederate sword broken and bloody, but not dishonored, and our shield, though battered and bent, yet untarnished, hang in the 'Temple of Fame,' as so many bruised monuments to the valor, sacrifice and patriotism of the Confederate soldier.

"Again, when the storm clouds shut out the bright sunshine of our country's peace and concord, we made in our Southland a determined effort to preserve the precious instrument, the warrant of Columbia's liberty, when the new Government, born at Montgomery and cradled at Richmond, set up its standard with the same instrument which we had received of our fathers, yet pure, chaste, unsullied of the unseemly blemish put upon it elsewhere by a selfish sectionalism.

"Small wonder is it, indeed, that in the smoke of battle the Stars and Stripes, and Stars and Bars often lost their identity, and we were mistaken for each other. Both stood for essentially the same Constitution with this difference: That as the bars of our banner were broader than the stripes of the Union flag, so we had and upheld a broader view of the Constitution, and maintained it in its pristine purity. Consequently, as the noxious vapors of animosity were slowly, yet surely, dispelled by the warm sunshine of subsequent events, commingling with a better knowledge after the dust of neglected preception was brushed from the pages of our history, the impugning of our motives was laid aside, and contumely gave place to credence, self-confidence yielded to a broader wisdom. Our friends of the North conceded the strict constructionist was right, and our beloved country took her place among the willing nations, heir greater, grander, than was pictured in the most extravagant fancy of the American of the old days.

"For our steadfast, faithful tenacity in holding to the proper and true construction through all the years; for this, if for nothing else, the Confederate soldier is worthy of a welcome, clear, clean, and unalloyed, by all true Americans. The love, and loyalty which the Confederate soldier gave to the

Lost Cause, and to the defeated banner, is a demonstration of the deep hold that our cause had upon the hearts of Southern people, and of the absolute sincerity and complete devotion with which they supported it; but it is no evidence of unmanly and fruitless repining over defeat, nor of any lurking disloyalty to our present government.

"What more did the Confederate soldier see and witness? We saw our banner go down with breaking hearts, when our idolized leader sheathed his sword at Appomattox, the world grew dark to us: We felt as if the sun had set in blood to rise no more; it was as if the foundation of the earth was sinking beneath our very feet, but that stainless hero, whom we had followed with unquestioning devotion, taught us not despair. He told us it was the part of brave men to accept defeat without repining. 'Human virtue,' he said, 'should be equal to human calamity.' He pointed upward to the star of duty, bade us follow it as bravely in peace as we had in war. Henceforth it should be our consecrated duty to rebuild the fallen walls of our prosperity.

"We have done more than bare our breast to the foe-mar's steel, we have shown to the world how defeats of war may be turned into victories of peace. We have taught mankind how a proud race may sustain disaster, and yet survive and win applause of the world, even through four years of reconstruction, so much more bitter than the four years of war. At last, out of the depths of the bitter flood of reconstruction, Comrades, the South emerged through your fortitude, through your patience, through your courage, more beautiful than ever. All the Southern States honor you in your old age; they will ever cherish the memory of your deeds, and will hand down a priceless heirloom to their children's children.

"We are not pensioners on the bounty of the government; your manhood is not sapped by eating the bread of dependence; you have faced poverty as bravely as you faced the cannon's mouth. The world salutes you as the nobility of our Southland. Our deeds have carved for us a place in the temple of fame, they will not be forgotten; the world will not forget them.

"Comrades, we realize our ranks are thinned. Each year brings us nearer our Eternal Home, one after another of our comrades are saying farewell as the Angel of God calls the soul beyond the river. Many of our comrades sleep under the green sod in this vicinity, and while the portals of the grave are closed over them, it seems to me at this moment I hear voices calling back sweeter than music saying, they are not dead, but sleeping the sleep of heroes until God calls them into

His eternal camping ground, where the assembled angels will hear the verdict proclaimed: 'What Manner of Man Was the Confederate Soldier?'"

Song—by Opelousas Chorus.

Honorable F. C. Claiborne was then introduced, who responded to the welcome, on behalf of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, in an appropriate and eloquent manner.

Music.

Chairman Lewis then, in appropriate remarks, turned the Convention over to Major General Thomas J. Shaffer, who assumed the chair, amidst great applause, and called the Convention to order.

General Shaffer welcomed his comrades in arms, and congratulated them that they were present in such large numbers at this, their Twentieth Annual Reunion, and expressed his gratitude to them for their loyal support of his administration.

The first order of business was reading of the minutes of the previous convention at Alexandria, September 9th and 10th, 1909.

On motion, duly seconded, it was resolved that the reading of same be dispensed with, and that they be approved as published, which was passed unanimously.

The Major General then announced the Committees on Credentials and Resolutions as follows:

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

Comrade M. L. Costley, Chairman.

Comrade Thos. Higgins.

Comrade O. D. Berwick.

Comrade W. P. Dixon.

Comrade Sam Haas.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Comrade, General A. B. Booth, Chairman.

Comrade, General J. A. Prudhomme.

Comrade, Lieutenant Colonel W. W. Leake.

Comrade, Major S. R. Harmonson.

Comrade, Major Paul DeClouet.

On motion by Comrade A. B. Booth, duly seconded, it was unanimously resolved that all resolutions be referred to the Committee on Resolutions without being read.

In order to give time to the Committee on Credentials to report, it was resolved that the Convention do now adjourn for dinner, and reassemble at 2:30 P. M.

Promptly at 2:30 P. M. the Convention was called to order by the Major General commanding.

The Committee on Credentials reported as follows:

“Opelousas, La., Sept. 28, 1910.

“To Major General Thos. J. Shaffer,
“Commanding Louisiana Division,
“U. C. V. Convention,
“Opelousas, La.:

“Your Committee on Credentials respectfully report that we have carefully examined the Credentials of the following Camps, and find that twenty-four (24) Camps have paid their dues, have delegates present, and are entitled to representation in this Convention, and a quorum present:

Camp No. 1—Army of N. Virginia	2	votes
Camp No. 2—Gen. LeRoy Stafford	2	“
Camp No. 9—Vet. Conf. States Cav.	2	“
Camp No. 6—Jeff. Davis	2	“
Camp No. 14—R. E. Lee	2	“
Camp No. 17—Baton Rouge	2	“
Camp No. 40—Natchitoches	2	“
Camp No. 78—Amite City	2	“
Camp No. 110—Isaiah Norwood	2	“
Camp No. 182—Hy. W. Allen	2	“
Camp No. 247—Fred N. Ogden	2	“
Camp No. 409—Louden Butler	2	“
Camp No. 345—Florian Cornay	2	“
Camp No. 545—Genl. T. M. Scott	2	“
Camp No. 551—Hy. Gray	2	“
Camp No. 580—Genl. Frank Gardner	2	“
Camp No. 607—Vermillion	2	“
Camp No. 798—W. Feliciana	2	“
Camp No. 490—Hy. Gray	2	“
Camp No. 196—Braxton Bragg	2	“
Camp No. 134—Alcibiades DeBlanc	2	“

Camp No. 1332—New Roads, La.	2	“
Camp No. 1185—S. E. Hunter	2	“
Camp No. 1272—Chas. J. Batchelor	2	“

24 Camps 48 “

“Respectfully submitted,
“M. L. COSTLEY, Chairman.
“THOS. HIGGINS,
“O. D. BERWICK,
“W.P. DIXON,
“SAM'L HAAS.”

Comrade M. L. Costley, Chairman, moved that the report be accepted, which was duly seconded and adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions asked for further time, until 7:30 P. M., when they would make a partial report.

The Veterans adjourned until 7:30 P. M., to enable this committee to submit a report, and to accept an invitation from the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, to visit them in convention assembled at the Auditorium where they were received with great honor.

NIGHT SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

Convention called to order by the Commander at 7:30 P. M., when Comrade E. F. Konkie, of Camp No. 1, Army of Northern Virginia, moved that the Rules be suspended, and a committee be appointed to invite and escort Governor J. Y. Sanders to address the convention, which was duly seconded and adopted.

The Chairman appointed on said committee:

Comrades E. F. Konkie and B. T. Walsh, who retired, and in a few minutes returned, accompanied by the Governor. He was received by the Veterans and vast assembly, standing, with great applause. Governor Sanders was introduced by the Commander, who addressed the Veterans, taking for his subject, “Patriotism.”

PATRIOTIC ADDRESS BY LOUISIANA'S GOVERNOR.

“Confederate Veterans, Ladies and Gentlemen:

“I want to thank you and the organization of the Confederate Veterans for having so kindly extended me an invitation to be with you to-night. I came to Opelousas primarily because I belong to the younger branch of the order. I am a member in good standing of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans,

and I always make it a rule to attend their meetings when invited. This evening I was invited to be with you and address you, and I esteem it a high honor indeed to be asked by the Confederate Veterans to be with them, and talk to them on this occasion.

"There are a great many things in life, life's philosophy, in the thought and sentiment that must ever cling around the hearts of mankind, but the most dominant thing that differentiates man, the reasoning animal, from all creation is the love of home, the love of family, and the love of country. Patriotism is thought by many to be the finest sentiment the heart is capable of. We people of the South have many things to be proud of. When we read the history of this country we men and women of the South can and do take pride in everything that has been done by Southern men and Southern womanhood from the earliest period of the colonies down to the present, when our Nation stands the mightiest on God's green footstool. We Southern people are proud—not only of our country and section, but of the traits of character that have ever predominated in Southern breasts. This country of ours, these United States, owes more to Southern brain and bravery than it will ever be able to repay. Looking at the question coldly and dispassionately, if there is a United States of America today, if the Declaration of Independence is a living, breathing fact that has carried a message of peace and good will to downtrodden people of all the world, then it is true likewise that it is the product of a Southern mind, Thomas Jefferson. And the product of his brain would have been rendered as of nought had it not been for the sword of George Washington, who made the Declaration of Independence a breathing, living fact.

"Almost without interruption from the beginning of this country of ours, down to 1860, her destinies were guided by Southern men, her policies were shaped by Southern Statesmen, and the principles of government of those days stand in clear and concrete forms, showing justice and equal rights to all. They were the products of the men who guided the country in that day and generation, and they were Southern men. This was the Confederacy of Southern States. The States went into the Union voluntarily, and under the law the States had the right to go out whenever they saw fit to do so. That is a principle of law no man ever refuted nor can ever refute. When in 1860, you gentlemen, you men of the South went out of the Union, following the action of Louisiana, you did that which you both had a moral and legal right to do. That question was submitted to the arbitrament of the sword, and the battles

were decided against the Confederates, but nowhere is it written in the morals of mankind that might made right. And because 600,000 Southern men wore themselves out against a world in arms, that does not argue that the cause for which you fought was not just, neither does it prove that the Constitution gave you no right to do what you did do. Be that as it may, the brightest page of American history is that page devoted to the valor, and the bravery, and the fortitude of Southern men and women from '61 to '65.

"There is nothing in all the annals of time that challenges the admiration of the impartial reader as the struggles of those gray-clad figures, who, for four years, followed the stars and bars under the leadership of Lee and Jackson, Forrest and Beauregard, until their very victories brought defeat. It is ever written in human blood, and as I have said to my young friends a thousand times, (it is not necessary to say it to you who fought and bled and died for the South), we who belong to the younger generation ought to approach the question of that struggle with uncovered heads, and with bared feet, as in the presence of holy ground, because whatever our actions are in the matter, we must write ours and our fathers' deeds by what their sons think and feel. And my father was one of the men who answered the call, and shouldered his musket, and marched forth to battle beneath that flag, and I say that when he did it, he did it because he thought it was right, and not because of any question whether his State should or should not have stayed in the Union. Once Louisiana left there was no course open to my father save to join the Confederate army, and fight to maintain what our and his State had done, and in the doing of it he was no traitor. When he joined the army and fought for his State, he fought for that which he had a right to fight for.

"When the war was over, when you came back home crushed beneath overwhelming numbers, when President, and Court, and triumphant bayonet alike were on the side of the North, there was not a single man of the South convicted of rebellion against the Union, for they could not do it. There was no rebellion, no treachery, and the Supreme Court of the United States would have discharged any man upon any writ of error that any jury in the North would have convicted, therefore natural it would be this solemn thought, never to forget that your father fought for what was right. He went to the war because he had the legal and moral right so to do. He fought for his State as he should have fought. There is no man in the world who honors and reveres the deeds of valor done

on a thousand battlefields by our Confederate sires more than I, but there is another chapter in the life of the Confederate soldier more glorious than any thing he ever did on the battlefield. There is not a race in the world that won't fight and die on the battlefield in defense of home, family and country, but it is not every race of men that have the courage to face defeat, and out of the chaos of that defeat to snatch victory itself. And the way I love to look at the Confederate soldier is after his deeds of valor have been done, after he had worked with Beauregard and Forrest, after he had charged with Jackson, and marched with Lee and the rest—I love to regard him when at last the flag was furled; when he came back home after denouncing the South with his blood, and found poverty where there had been plenty, chaos where there had been order; found the fabric of his Government turned upside down; when he faced the new conditions, and the new surroundings with a bravery far greater than he had every shown upon the battlefield, and on the wreck of the South built the splendid Empire that we, their sons, enjoy to-day.

“I love to picture to myself the thoughts in your mind when the servile race was placed upon the top—when the bottom became the top. When you, a superior man, made so by God himself, was placed beneath the feet of the recently imported savage from Africa. I shudder to think of the awful curse that damaged the South from 1860 until 1876, and I love to glory in the manhood that against the triumphant Government itself gritted its teeth, and said, by the eternal gods, this Southland is ours and our children's and by the eternal we will redeem it and give it back to the white people where it belongs. That is where I love to picture my father, down in Vicksburg; that is where I love to think of the old Confederate soldier, because many a nation and race is great in the charge, but it is poor in the retreat. Many a nation, and many a race can triumphantly charge to the mouth of the roaring cannon itself, but cannot withstand adversity, and with our people of South upon the eight years succeeding the war, they showed the mettle of which they were made, and which wrote their names high on the walls of fame, a thought that should be a priceless heritage to us, their children.

“To you Confederate Veterans, I love to say it, I have held every office in the gift of the people of this State—I have had every title that the people of Louisiana could give me, and God knows from the bottom of my heart I thank them, and yet there is a title I have not gotten from them that I love better than Senator, Governor, or anything else, and that is that I

can say I am the son of a Confederate veteran. I got that, not from you, but from my father. I am proud of that because it shows that my father could do what he thought was right, no matter what the consequence might be; that he could give up a life of each and comfort, and go out with you, his comrades, to fight and bleed, and if need be die, not for conquest, not for glory, not for reward, but for principle, for the right of self-government that our old Teutonic fathers handed down from the fields of Germany.

“There was not a drop of Southern blood that was spilled in vain. When the people can give to the world a Lee, a Jackson, a Forrest, and a Beauregard, then all the blood that was shed gloriously, if for no other reason than that we can say ours is the highest type of man the world has seen.

“My friends, we are all of us proud of you. Perchance some of you may think, and justly so, that all that should have been done has not been done. I am not here to-night to say to you that everything that ought to have been done for the Confederate soldiers has been done, but I am here to say that I have tried to do and have done more than has been accomplished in the past. There is one work that has been undertaken that I believe of the greatest importance, that is to perpetuate for generations the true roll and history of those who did die for the South. I left that matter to the camps, and I appointed a man to make that list who was recommended to me by every Confederate Veteran Camp in Louisiana save two, and I am here to say to you men of the Confederacy, if you are satisfied with General Castleman's work, I am. I appointed him on your recommendation; he is your appointment; and I believe he is doing good work, but if this organization tells me he is not, he will not stay there two minutes after I get the word from the Confederate Veterans of Louisiana.

“I know to-day that the pensions in this State are small, but they are larger to-day than they have ever been in the history of Louisiana. I know the pension board is meeting in Baton Rouge now for the purpose of appropriating the extra amount of money that the Legislature gave them. It is not enough—God knows it is not enough. There is nothing in the power of mankind that can do enough for the Confederate veteran—nothing that can compensate what he did for us. And when a Confederate veteran receives a pension, I want it to be distinctly understood that I feel in my heart, and I am sure this whole Southland feels that way, that he is not getting anything in the way of charity—he is getting that which it is

his right to get. He gave his best in him to the State, and the State owes him something in return. We all make mistakes, we all make mistakes, friends. I have heard it charged and head in history that it was a mistake that Washington was not captured after the battle of Bull Run. I have heard that it was a mistake not to have used the famous flank movement at Shiloh, and we to-day in Louisiana, of course we make mistakes; but I believe I can speak for the great young manhood of this State when I say that any mistake made with regard to you and yours does not come from the heart; it may be a mistake from the hear, because I believe I know something of public sentiment in Louisiana, and I don't believe there is a man in the State that does not want to do everything that is possible for the Confederate Veterans in every way.

"My friends, members of this splendid organization, can I speak you one further word—I have spoken of the Union and the South, can I say one word for this, my State and yours? Louisiana has gone through many trials and tribulations, her lot in the sisterhood of the States has not been a bed of roses, but there has never been a time in history that her manhood and womandhood did not rise to meet any obstacle that was for her uplifting or moral welfare. I say I believe the people of the State, no matter what they think of you or me, I believe the great heart of the people of Louisiana beats for Louisiana's welfare; that the great heart of Louisiana's people keep step to music of better things, and I believe from the bottom of my heart that we young men of the State look to you, our fathers, when we have set forth in life to try to do our duty as we see it, no matter what the consequence may be, taking as example the glorious view that you yourselves did when you did what you thought was right, no matter what the consequence. I believe from the bottom of my heart that Louisiana is coming to better things. There is no one of us but what is prout of her splendid past, and who rejoices in her present. We want to work together for a common purpose, towards a common end, remembering that men have always differed, remembering that men will always differ. But let us give to the other that which we claim for ourselves, honesty of purpose, sincerity of conviction, and let us as Louisiannians fight our battles whatever they may be out on the other hand. But when the welfare of Louisiana, when her moral uplift is involvedfi let every man in Louisiana cry out the slogan lines, "Highlanders, shoulder the musket for Scotland." Shoulder anything and everything that goes to make a better Louisiana."

General A. B. Booth, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, asked to submit a partial report of the committee, as follows:

Resolution No. 1—Comrade W. W. Leake of Camp No. 798:

"*Resolved*, that the resolution passed at Alexandria, Sept. 10, 1909, fixing the basis of representation for the Camps of this Division, be amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

"The representation of the various Camps at their annual convention of the Division shall be by delegates as follows:

"One delegate for every twenty (20) active members in good standing in the Camp, and one additional for a fraction of ten (10) members, provided every Camp in good standing shall be entitled to at least two delegates; provided, also, that no delegate shall hold or vote more than one proxy."

Favorable report, Sept. 29, 1910.

A. B. Booth, Chairman, moved that the report be received, and the resolutions adopted, which was duly seconded and approved unanimously.

Resolution No. 2—By Comrade A. B. Anderson, of Camp 14:

"WHEREAS, there has been insubordination on the part of some members of the Army of Tennessee Camp No. 2, U. C. V., and of some of the members of Washington Artillery Camp No. 15, U. C. V.

"AND WHEREAS, this insubordination has led to various publications in the public prints of the city of New Orleans and State, inspired by these misled veterans, which publications were so inaccurate and unjust as to mislead those of our comrades and the public, who are not fully informed; therefore, the Louisiana Division, in convention assembled, believes that it is our duty to place a fair and truthful account of the controversy before the members of our organization and the public. Therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the following statement represents the facts as they appear to this convention; facts which we declare that every comrade and the public at large should be made acquainted with:

"At the Shreveport Convention, Oct. 8 and 9, of 1907, Comrade T. W. Castleman was unanimously elected Commander. At the same convention Washington Artillery Camp No. 15, or which General Behan is president, introduced a resolution,

directing 'That our united efforts be now directed towards raising the balance of the fund' to complete the Beauregard monument. And another resolution was introduced by the Army of Northern Virginia directing that the incoming commander use his best efforts 'towards having a bill passed, authorizing a record of the names of all who participated in the war between the States, and who enlisted from this State, with the command in which he served, date of enlistment and discharge.' In obedience to the mandate of the convention, Commander Castleman went before the appropriation committee of the Legislature June 18, 1908, and urged both of these measures. Immediately upon his return to New Orleans, the president of the Jeff Davis Monument Association, and Captain Lewis Guion upbraided Commander Castleman for urging the Beauregard monument appropriation, and demanded that he withdraw what he had asked for, for the Beauregard monument, to the extent of demanding that whatever appropriation was made, should be divided between the Beauregard and Davis monuments, which Commander Castleman could not do under the resolution of the Shreveport Convention, introduced by General Behan's own Camp. Upon Commander Castleman's refusing to do this, the president of the Davis Monument Association, and Captain Lewis Guion, said they would, and did begin, a fight before the appropriations committee against our Beauregard appropriation, and neither monument got any appropriation from the Legislature of 1908, on account of this opposition. This fight appears to have been the result of a division among our ladies' organizations, in which one wing of them began an active canvass for a Louisiana monument to President Davis, before we could complete our Beauregard monument, and in which General Behan sides against the instructions of the Shreveport Convention, by resolution introduced by his own Camp. This was the beginning of the fight on General Castleman, and appears to have been inspired by the rivalry among our ladies' organizations, which resulted in division in their ranks, and was thus brought into ours.

MONROE CONVENTION.

"On Oct. 15, 1908, our division met pursuant to call at Monroe, La. At this convention Captain J. W. Gaines acted as Adjutant, and upon roll call announced that there was not a quorum present, and that, therefore, no business could be transacted, and Commander Castleman adjourned the convention to the next day, hoping to get a quorum; when again,

Acting Adjutant Gaines called the roll, and stated no quorum, and the convention had to adjourn to a date when a quorum could be had. On this very day, the 16th of October, the representative of Washington Artillery Camp No. 15, Adjutant Sumpster Turner, was in Monroe, and his presence could have made a quorum of delegates, yet he did not attend.

"After adjournment, and while yet on the ground, Past Commander Prudhomme asked a number of the delegates their views as to when to call another convention, and they all expressed the opinion that it would be unwise to do so until the regular time for the next convention. Subsequently, Captains Gaines and Guion demanded that the Commander call a convention to meet in the city of New Orleans, to elect a Major General. Commander Castleman stated that he would not take the responsibility without consultation, and called his personal staff to meet on Dec. 3, 1908, to consult with them. At this meeting a motion directing the Commander to call the convention to meet in New Orleans in the month of January was introduced by Captain Lewis Guion, and seconded by Captain J. W. Gaines, and voted down by the staff. Then the motion directing the Commander to communicate with the officers of the camps, asking their wishes as to holding an adjourned convention, was passed without objection, fourteen members of the staff being present. The camps and officers were asked. Out of forty-two camps in good standing, thirty-six replied, and of these twenty-six favored not calling a meeting until the regular time in 1909, seven favored an early call, three said it was immaterial, but if called they would attend themselves. These replies were made by the officers, and in many cases by resolutions of the camps. Our State by-laws provide that 'Special meetings of the division shall be called when a majority of the camps of the division in good standing shall so request.' Under the circumstances, Commander Castleman again called his staff together for consultation, and there were sixteen members present, on the 7th day of January, 1909, Captain Gaines being one of them. The whole matter being considered, the staff advised that 'as the camps of the division had spoken, that General Castleman should hold over until the next annual reunion.'"

"On the 10th day of January, 1909, Captain Gaines resigned from the staff, after having participated in both of these staff meetings, and on the 12th of January, 1909, Captain Louis Guion resigned from the staff, after having participated in the staff meeting of Dec. 3, 1908. On the 14th of January, 1909, Commander Castleman laid the whole matter before the division in General Orders No. 6, and these general orders were

sent to every camp and staff officer of the division, and to the commanders of every department and division in the federation, the latter accompanied by a letter asking their opinion.

COURSE APPROVED.

"On the 23rd of March, 1909, General Castleman again consulted his staff, eighteen members being present, when they unanimously advised that no special convention be called unless a majority of the camps so request."

"At this meeting the opinion of the commanding officers of the departments and divisions indorsing General Castleman's course, were presented as follows, viz: From Generals J. M. Gordon, South Carolina; Stich Bolling, Virginia; Robert White, West Virginia; A. C. L. Gatewood, West Virginia; George W. Gordon, Department of Tennessee, now Commander-in-chief; E. T. Sykes, Tennessee; John P. Hickman, Tennessee; John Hugh, McDowell, Tennessee; Robert J. McGill, Florida; George P. Harrison, Alabama; Louis J. Young, Georgia; W. A. Milton, Kentucky; W. L. Cabell, Transmississippi Departmena; J. W. Halliburton, Missouri; James F. Smith, Arkansas; William M. Cross, Oklahoma; John Threadgill, Oklahoma; Paul A. Fuez, Montana; William C. Harrison, Pacific Division; Louis Tie-mann, Pacific Division; Albert Estopinal, Louisiana Division; J. Alphonse Prudhomme, Louisiana Division; John McGrath, Louisiana Division, and many others, besides nearly all of the camps and staff officers of Louisiana, extracts from which were sent out to every camp in the State in circular letter, giving an account of the staff meeting of March 23, 1909.

"On June 3, 1909, memorial services were held at the cemeteries in New Orleans, and the committee in charge would not invite General Castleman, the Commander of his division and his staff to participate, although it had always been the custom to invite the division through its commander. Thus was a gratuitous affront offered the Commander of the division.

"The insubordination of Camp 15, under command of General Behan, was shown by his refusal to go into the procession with the Louisiana Division, and placing his command with the Virginia Division at the Memphis Reunion, June, 1909. The commanding officer of the Virginia Division disclaims any invitation having been extended to General Behan or his camp.

"At the Mobile Reunion General Behan, with his delegation from Washington Artillery Camp No. 15, was again in insubordination from the fact that he importuned General J.

Thompson Brown, commanding the Virginia Division, to permit him and his delegation to take position in the parade behind the R. E. Lee Camp of Richmond, Va., when he had already been informed by General Harrison, the grand marshal of the parade, that he would have no position in the parade unless he went with the Louisiana Division.

"At the convention held at Alexandria, Sept. 9 and 10, 1909, Camp No. 2, then entitled to twelve votes in our convention, sent only one delegate, Captain J. W. Gaines, to represent it, and sent him instructed not to pay dues or participate in the convention until after there was a quorum present, without their twelve votes, thus again trying to prevent a quorum. Is this the spirit in which our conventions are to be held? Is not this especially reprehensible when our laws required one-half of the delegates of the division to make the quorum, and this camp, the largest in the State, having twelve votes, refuses to assist in making a quorum? If we had lacked one vote of a quorum, would they not have gone home, with their twelve votes, and prevented a convention? When the Committee on Credentials reported a quorum present, Captain Gaines made his statement and offered to pay dues. The matter was referred to the Committee on Crdentials, which committee, on a unanimous report, recommended that the dues be refused, as too late to admit a representation in that convention. Is it surprising that the convention unanimously sustained this committee?

CARRIED TO MOBILE.

"The question of whether or not a camp can participate in the grand conventions, or be assigned a position in the parade, without coming through its State division, where such division exists, came up for discussion at Mobile. This question was fully discussed in Committee on Resolutions, with a member from each State, and this committee, by a unanimous report, introduced a resolution which, after ample discussion, was passed by the Mobile convention without a dissenting vote, interpreting our laws to mean that no camp can get into the National Convention except through the State division, where such division exists. We then had a right to expect that Camps 2 and 15 would consider the matter settled, and either come back into the division, or else sever their connection, and leave the command to pursue its work in peace. Now, since they are out, we can only hope that they may yet see that it is best for our historical work that we should all be united, as we pass away and leave only our history and traditions behind us.

"After the Shreveport Convention instructed our Commander to secure an act authorizing a commission of records, Camp No. 2 indorsed General Castleman for that position. He was appointed by the Governor, without compensation, and worked faithfully, and finally an appropriation was made to carry out the work of compiling a list of all those who served in the Confederate Army.

"After General Castleman had begun this work, and performed services for a year and a half without compensation, our patriotic Governor, J. Y. Sanders, seeing the necessity of completing the work, recommended an appropriation, and the Legislature appropriated \$12,000 to complete the work, giving the commissioner very reasonable compensation therefor. And now Camps 2 and 15 are trying to discredit his work. Does this come with good grace? When Captain Louis Guion was an applicant for an appointment as Vicksburg Park Commissioner, which pays, we believe, over \$3,000 per year, General Castleman, then Commander, gave an official indorsement of our division to help Captain Louis Guion get the position, which we were all glad to see a Confederate veteran get. And Captain J. W. Gaines holds a position as custodian of Memorial Hall, which pays \$900 or over a year, and we are again glad to see a Confederate veteran hold the place, but we do unhesitatingly declare that we deprecate the fact that such positions are held by veterans who are trying to discredit and disrupt the division, when there are so many worthy, competent and loyal comrades who could fill them with honor to themselves, and with honor to the division.

"General Castleman, Commissioner of Records, is not making any man's record, but is compiling, as far as possible, records as they are proven to exist, and we have confidence in Comrade Castleman doing his duty under the laws of the State.

DECORATION DAY.

"Now, comrades, in regard to Decoration Day. We have been charged with attempting to change Memorial Day, the 3rd of June, President Davis' birthday, and a legal holiday in our State, because we have designated April 6 as Division Decoration Day, after the division had been slighted on our State Memorial Day, June 3. Our Constitution says: 'Each camp, brigade and division shall have full authority to designate its own Decoration Day.' Thus we have full authority to name our division day, when we can peacefully go and decorate the graves of our comrades in the name of our own division. This we do without attempting to change our State Memorial Day.

On the contrary, we officially recognized it at the Alexandria Convention, which was the first official recognition by the Louisiana Division of our State Memorial Day.

"And now this convention, after considering all the facts, and with personal knowledge of the disturbing elements which have placed this division in a false position, does hereby fully indorse and justify General T. W. Castleman's course as Commander, and in regard to the military records, and congratulates General Thomas J. Shaffer, our present Commander, for his consistent and loyal defense of our division in supporting General Castleman."

The above resolutions are signed by A. B. Anderson, Camp R. E. Lee No. 14, U. C. V.

After reading the above resolution, General Booth, the Chairman, moved its adoption, which was duly seconded.

Comrade E. F. Konkie, of Camp No. 1, asked, as a delegate from that camp, that they be permitted to vote blank on the resolution, which was granted, otherwise the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The convention then adjourned until Friday morning, Sept. 30, at 10 A. M.

THIRD DAY PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, 10 A. M.

Convention called to order by Major General T. J. Shaffer, and was opened with prayer by Major A. S. Prosser, D. D., Assistant Chaplain General.

Report of the Adjutant General, Lieutenant Colonel, M. L. Costley, Assistant Adjutant General, in the absence of Colonel L. H. Gardner, confined at home, too ill to attend, submitted, and read the following report:

REPORT OF L. H. GARDNER, ADJUTANT GENERAL AND CHIEF OF STAFF.

"Headquarters Louisiana Division,
"New Orleans, Sept. 27, 1910.

"To Major General Thos. J. Shaffer,

"Commanding Louisiana Division, U. C. V.

"GENERAL:

"I herewith present my report covering matters pertaining to my department during the past year.

"First—I present a list of those camps which, by having paid dues to both the General Headquarters and to this Division, are entitled to representation in the present convention. It is as follows:

CAMPS WHICH HAVE PAID 1910 DUES.

- "Camp 1.—Army of Northern Virginia, New Orleans.
 3.—General Le Roy Stafford, Shreveport.
 6.—Jefferson Davis, Alexandria.
 7.—Ruston, Ruston.
 9.—Confederate Cavalry.
 14.—R. E. Lee, Opelousas.
 16.—Henry St. Paul, New Orleans.
 17.—Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge.
 38.—Victor Maurin, Donaldsonville.
 40.—Natchitoches, Natchitoches.
 62.—Calcasieu Conf. Veterans, Lake Charles.
 78.—Amite City, Amite.
 110.—Irish Norwood, Legonier.
 182.—Henry W. Allen, Monroe.
 183.—John Peck, Sicily Island.
 193.—Lake Providence, Lake Providence.
 196.—Braxton Bragg, Thibodaux.
 247.—Fred N. Ogden, Hope Villa.
 345.—Florian Cornay, Franklin.
 379.—Griffin, Farmetsville.
 409.—Louden Butler, Benton.
 490.—Henty Gray, Coushatta.
 545.—General T. W. Scott, Minden.
 548.—Caliborne, Homer.
 551.—Henry Gray, Timothy P. O.
 580.—Mouton-Gardner, Lafayette.
 607.—Vermillion, Abbeville.
 634.—Alcibiades De Blanc, Jeanerette.
 798.—West Feliciana, St. Francisville.
 1074.—Ponchatoula, Ponchatoula.
 1093.—Hammond, Hammond.
 1111.—Franklin Sharpshooters, Winnsboro.
 1142.—General F. T. Nicholls, Napoleonville.
 1185.—S. E. Hunter, Clinton.
 1232.—New Roads, New Roads.
 1272.—Chas. J. Batchelor, Mains P. O.
 1484.—St. Helena, Greensburgh.
 1497.—Pendleton Groves, Leesville.
 1503.—Alcibiades Le Blanc, St. Francisville.

- 1529.—W. Stobé, Tallulah.
 1603.—David Pearson, Winnfield.
 1702.—Camp Vining, Oak Grove.

"The following camps, at time of this report, are in arrears to both the Division and General Headquarters:

Camp 18		451	628
Camp 33			631
Camp 41		229	670
Camp 60		264	671
Camp 152		270	749
Camp 178		589	909
Camp 937		1238	1465
Camp 1485		1508	

"Roster of the *Personal Staff*:

- Thos. J. Shaffer, Major General Commanding, Franklin, La.
 Lt.-Col. O. D. Brooks, 1st Asst. Adjutant Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. M. L. Costley, 2nd Asst. Adjutant Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. H. C. Rogers, Inspector Gen'l.
 Major Thos. Higgins, Asst. Inspector Gen'l.
 Major Ozeme Naquin, 2nd Asst. Inspector Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. Honore Dugas, Paymaster Gen'l.
 Major L. H. Marrero, Asst. Paymaster Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. Alden McLellan, Quartermaster Gen'l.
 Major Chas. Santana, Asst. Quartermaster Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. Geo. H. Tichenor, M. D., Commissary Gen'l.
 Major Edmund McCollam, Asst. Commissary Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. D. M. Key, M. D., Surgeon Gen'l.
 Major Wm. M. McGaillard, M. D., Asst. Surgeon Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. W. W. Leake, Judge Advocate Gen'l.
 Major W. W. Whittington, Asst. Judge Advocate Gen'l.
 Lt.-Col. A. G. Bakewell, D. D., Chaplain Gen'l.
 Major R. H. Prosser, D. D., Asst. Chaplain Gen'l.

"Past Major Generals:

- Major General W. J. Behan, New Orleans.
 Major General John Glenn, New Orleans.
 Major General Geo. O. Watts (dead), Alexandria.
 Major General B. F. Eshleman, New Orleans (dead).
 Major General W. G. Vincent, New Orleans.
 Major General John McGrath, Baton Rouge.
 Major General E. H. Lombard (dead), New Orleans.
 Major General W. H. Tunnard, Irma.

Major General J. Y. Gilmore (dead), New Orleans.
 Major General J. A. Chalaron (dead), New Orleans.
 Major General George H. Packwood, Clinton.
 Major General Leon Jastremski (dead), New Orleans.
 Major General J. B. Levert, New Orleans.
 Major General O. A. Bouillon (dead).
 Major General A. B. Booth, New Orleans.
 Major General Albert Estopinal, New Orleans.
 Major General J. Alphonse Prudhomme, Bermuda.
 Major General T. W. Castleman, New Orleans.

“History Committee:

Colonel Howell Carter, Baton Rouge.
 Major W. C. Stubbs, New Orleans.
 Major Frank L. Richardson, New Orleans.

“The Financial Statement, condensed, is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand last report, Sept. 9, 1909.....	\$167.63
Contributed by members of Staff	219.10
Dues received from Camps	93.65
Balance donated by N. O. Reunion of 1906.....	25.32
	\$505.70

DISBURSEMENTS.

Stationery, printing, postage, and exchange, and incidental to Alexandria and Mobile Reunions	357.80
Balance on hand	\$147.90

“Respectfully submitted,

“L. H. GARDNER,
 “Col.-Adjt.-Gen and Chief of Staff,
 “La. Div., U. C. V.”

Committee on History submitted its report through its Chairman, Lt. Col., Howell Carter, who read the following elaborate and instructive paper, entitled “RIGHT OR WRONG”:

RIGHT OR WRONG.

“The Major General commanding asked if I would not deliver an address, or write something for our Reunion, and as there is only a remnant of our grand old army left, we should not refuse to say what we know, or what we think of that

epoch in American history that will forever stand out as a great line of demarcation—a line that will point to the old South in all the glories of her magnificence, followed by the great crash of the ages, and then the new and young South rising in its might from the ashes of the old.

“No subject was allotted me but the latitude permitted gives me a great privilege, and feeling that I should not abuse it too much, I will at least announce that my theme shall be “Right or Wrong”—and what a diversity of opinion there is on those two little words! ‘Right is that which accords with truthfi propriety, justice or the Will of God.’ Whatever is contrary to right is wrong, but now we have the fine lines to draw. First though, we will ask this question. Was it right for a people to engage in a traffic by which they enriched themselves, and when they had unloaded their ill-gotten gains upon others, throw up their hands in holly horror at the enormity of such crimes? And yet such we can prove to have been one of the forerunners of our great internecine war.

“We deny that slavery itself was the direct and ONLY cause of this crash, but if we undertake to trace their sources, if we follow all the little rivulets that meandered through the country and emptied in the rivers that flowed down to make this mighty ocean of upheaval, we might find ourselves like the traveler who enquired of a small boy the way to Greenville. ‘Do you see that barn of ours?’ pointing in the direction of such; ‘well, you go there and take that lane, and go about a mile and a half, then you will come to a branch that you will have to cross on a slippery-elm log—you be mighty kee-ful, stranger, about going on that log, you may fall into the branch, and then you go on up uptil you get to the top of the hill, and there the roads fork, and you take the left-hand and keep it until you get into a big plum thicket, and when you get there why then, then, then——’ ‘What then?’ ‘Then, stranger, I’ll be hanged if you ain’t lost?’ And thus it is, my friends, with any of us who undertake to give the details that led to this irrepressible conflict; but to prove that we were right—that it would have been unmanly not to have stood up for that right, we will show from their own acts, and their own mouths, that if we can put it in no other language, they goaded us on to desperation, and then put the chip on their heads, and dared us to knock it off, and the South was never known to cringe when conscience whispered that it was right. Now, which came nearer being right, to buy and use slaves, treating them humanely, as nine out of ten of all masters did, or to slip over to the African coast, capture, or steal the

negro, and bring him to this country and sell him? Old England started this traffic to furnish labor for the vast acres of her territories; she eased her conscience by saying, 'Let us use the idle sinews of the East to develop the idle fertilities of the West, out of two refractory negotiations make one intelligent affirmative! thus applying a reason for existence to two continents otherwise having none.' New England followed in her wake, and what a struggle she had to give up such a lucrative trade! As an instance when Virginia ceded to the general government, the northwest portion of her territory, the Journals tell us that Congress accepted the cession, and appointed Jefferson of Virginia, Chase of Maryland, and Howard of Rhode Island, to prepare a form of government for the new territory. Their report, in the handwriting of Thomas Jefferson, contained a clause prohibiting slavery after the year 1800. Mr. Speight, of North Carolina, moved to strike out the prohibition. All New England voted 'aye,' every vote north of Mason and Dixon's line is recorded in the affirmative. Virginia, Maryland, South Carolina, voted 'no,' and the vote of North Carolina was divided; hence you see, by a vote of the solid North the prohibition was stricken out—this on April 19, 1794—but it must be remembered that while the Southern States were then willing to enact laws prohibiting the further introduction of slavery, the North still wanted to get them, and sell them to the South. Even further back than that we find that Virginia, in 1778, passed an act prohibiting the importation of any slave into the commonwealth—but this law was practically repealed by the solid vote of New England in the convention of 1787—and not until about 1807 did our New England friends see the great wrong of slavery.

"Wh. Smith, of South Carolina, in the Senate of the United States, in 1820, said: 'As soon as this slave trade was cut off by the Act of Congress of 1807, the sinfulness of it presented itself in glaring colors, both with our Eastern friends and the British.' Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina, said in the same debate: 'With all the sins of holding slaves, we have not that of going to Africa for them. They have been brought to us by the citizens of the States which hold none. The only time in Congress that I have ever heard the slave trade defended was by a member from the same State with the gentleman from Rhode Island.' To Mr. Leigh Robinson, of Virginia, I am indebted for some of these references; he declares: 'That the South has been condemned at the bar of civilization for holding the negro in bondage. Of all the cruel ironies of fate, none seems quite so sardonic as the turn of events which

made New England the judge and executioner of Virginia for the sin of slavery.'

"No, my friends, it was not slavery in itself that prompted the North to wage such an unrelenting war against us, but wearing the cloak of humanity and philanthropy, and raising the cry of freedom for the oppressed they went on and on to extremes, even applauding the action of John Brown in marching into our country to incite resurrection among the negroes; and now, what do we hear flashed over the wires; that John Brown, who marched into Virginia with murderous intent, was a martyr, and his statue should be in the hall of fame at Washington. To this we say nothing, if the people of Kansas think that John Brown's statue should be placed by the side of their great Senator, John J. Ingalls, let them have him.

"Robert E. Lee—then of the United States Army—who captured Brown at Harpers Ferry, with a benign countenance of magnanimity and forgiveness, one of, if not the grandest figure of the century, will be there representing Virginia. Yes! they goaded us on and on until, at last, we had to ask them to give up our forts, to vacate our territory, and when they would not do it our guns were trained upon Sumter, and their point was gained—the 'Stars and Stripes' had been fired upon, and all were called on to rally around the flag, and the world was asked to give them aid.

"My comrades, I have not been attempting to prove that the South wanted the freedom of the slaves. I have simply been showing you that the North never made any strenuous efforts along that line until the slave traffic was prohibited by law. We all know that slavery, though not the *only* cause, was an entering wedge that went deeper and deeper as the years rolled round, to widen the breach between the sections. If we go back to the original thirteen States, seven were known as free, and six as slave, and the very organization of our Government was founded upon compromises. The Constitution could never have been adopted had it not been distinctly understood that each State had rights, which the General Government could not interfere with, and these safeguards, as they were then considered, thrown around the organic instrument of our existence, after being battered by time, and the exigencies of occasion, proved to be a veritable sword of Damocles; hence, the country soon became divided into two bitterly opposing factions. One believing in a central government, controlling absolutely the whole country, the other in the State Rights

doctrine, and step by step, this contrariety of opinion grew silently, but steadily, until the irrepressible conflict was upon us, and no power on earth could stem the torrent. The North wanted a protection tariff; the South did not; the South for years had practically been in control of the Government, and the Hon. Jas. G. Blaine, in his 'Twenty Years of Congress,' speaking of these intellectual giants who ruled in Congress, says that 'these statesmen were almost, without exception, men of high integrity, and they were especially and pealously careful of the public money—too often ruinously lavish in their personal expenditures, they believed in an economical government, and throughout the long period of their domination, guarded the treasury with rigid and unceasing vigilance against every attempt at extravagance and against every form of corruption.'

"Those were the men who guided and guarded the destinies of the South—those were the men who had watched the march of events—who knew that the fanatics wen in power, would be unbearable, and declared that secession was right, and *we* believed that we were right in defending that right; of course, there are men of to-day, who think that the crash could have been avoided, but I am not one of them. To me it simply was inevitable, and if it only proves to have been a crucible through which we passed, and our country and our people prove to be refined gold in grandeur and greatness, the fight was not in vain, and still we were right. We are ashamed of nothing we did, and we glory in the heritage that can be transmitted to our children.

"There are other countries, and other times, that have had illustrious warriors, but something has happened to mar the memory of most of them; if you remember, one goes down to the grave of a debauchee, one finds out the base ingratitude of man to man, and dies by the hand of him whom he trusted most. Another whose 'game was empires, and whose stakes were thrones,' languishes upon a lonely isle, and his soul takes its flight with no tears of sorrow around him, but *our* heroes, as they lived, so they died, Christian warriors, loved and honored to the last. Think of him who, in the language of the lamented Jefferson Davis, 'bent on obtaining a victory which he deemed essential to his country's cause, rode to the accomplishment of his object, while his very life blood was fast ebbing away, and among the shining ohsts of the great and good who cluster around the banner of their country, there exists no purer spirit, no more heroic soul than that of the illustrious Albert Sidney Johnston.'

"There are others, too numerous to mention, but as Mr. Robinson declared, 'We turn to Robert Lee and say: There is one, who, in place of taking from others every present they might offer, grandly gave all he had of mind, body and estate to others. There is one who trod the path of self-denying greatness. There is one who scaled the last heights; in whose majestic person defeat is transfigured into victory.'

It is not in human misfortune nor in human power to efface the eminence in which he abides, nor to efface us if we are not worthy of it. Long as there is reverence for honor; long as there shall linger an honor to revere, the earnest, the fearless, the true will bow down to him who, having the option of all that this world has to give thought of duty first, of self last. Success does not constitute his glory—his glory is enhanced, etherealized, more gloriously revealed by what the world calls his defeat. Sordid success is as dust in the balance by the side of it. Viewing him as the concentration of our own soul as embodying the high duty, the sacred conscience, the martyred valor which bore aloft his standard, his fame is the proudest possession ever vouchsafed to any people of any country, in any age. We fight behind the fortress of an unsullied life while we have him for Captain,' and who dares say we are wrong in enshrining in our hearts' memories of these grand and sublime heroes—and that we were not right in following where they led, and that we are not right in having our reunions, our decorations and our memorials, and to feel

" 'That though the cypress 'round us twines
'Tis sweeter than some laurel wreaths.'

"And now, my friends, we will touch upon that black page in American history. That clause in the act establishing a bureau of relief for freedmen and refugees, authorizing the Commissioner to lease for a term of three years, not more than forty acres of land, which had been abandoned by the owners, to every male refugee or citizen, was the entering wedge into the greatest block of villainy that any government ever cut, marked and squared for the purpose of using as good work in the building of its great edifice of usefulness. Unscrupulous men at once saw beautiful rills trickling down this great rich mountain side, which they could utilize, which by a little manipulation they could cause to wash the gems, and riches of the South into their own laps. Then the whispered words were passed around, 'Stick to us, my colored brother, and we will

see to it that you get forty acres of land and a mule.' What magic words those proved to be! 'Forty acres and a mule'—the Shibboleth of the unscrupulous reconstructionists who claimed that they wanted none but the truly anointed Gileadites, pointing to the true men of the South as Ephraimies, and when they could not pronounce their Shibboleth their edict was to 'down' them, and when the Southerner was once down on their black list, he was ever on the look out for a scourge, and he seldom failed to get it for the page then being written was the blackest in American history, a page so filled with foulness as almost to dim the eye that reads it, or blister the tongue that speaks of it, a page reeking in such filth and diabolical deeds as to render it impossible to find a parallel in the annals of Ancient or Modern history. Byron tells us that the Corsair

" 'Left a name to other climes
Linked with one virtue and a thousand crimes.' "

His love for Medora was the softening influence that rendered him somewhat human at times, and after scuttling a ship, or cutting a throat, one look from her would cause the only spark of humankindness that glimmered in his breast to shine forth for a moment at least, but where in all this broad Southland, when that black page of American history was being written, was any spark of human kindness? The Conrads were at large, but where were to be found the Medoras to soften their blackened hearts. Wars, cruel and devastating, have been fought; crimes in all their hideousness have been committed, men have been cast into seething flames and boiling oils, every nation and every clime has witnessed some black deeds; even religion has been rendered fanatical, and has had its Bartholomews. Puritanism has run wild, and used the stock and stake; but where on earth has ever been found such cursedness, such deviltry, such cold blooded, calculated rascality, as stained abroad in the Southland during the dark days of reconstruction. When a Southerner's thoughts are allowed to stray back to that cess-pool of rotteness, that blackened page of blackest history, he thinks of the Zoroastrianism of the ancient Persians, when the dark spirit of Ahriman was constantly striving to destroy the good creations of Ormuzd, by producing every evil that could be thought of. Who says New Orleans was wrong for her 14th of September, and that the Felicianas, Grant and other parishes, were not right for rising in their might and crushing out this viper.

"But those days, my comrades, are past and gone, even that has been forgiven. God, in His benign wisdom, has brought the old warring elements together, and a great and glorious country is now ours and theirs—their sons and ours are the nation's defenders—the bulwark of our happiness and prosperity, and each one feels proud of the inheritance that is his. There are but few Heyburns left in the land, and the Wattrouses and that type of manhood will soon drive such narrow-mindedness into their small dens, with the door of forgetfulness slammed in their faces.

"Yes!

" 'God in His wise mysterious ways
Saw fit our flag to fold;
Perhaps to pour upon us brighter rays,
And for us a grander mission hold.
We'll question not His wisdom great;
We only know we fought for right—
For Home, for Honor, and our State,
And never will we hide that light.' "

And our ardent wish is that the sentiment upon the monument in Charleston, South Carolina, will find lodgment in the breasts of future generations, that they will

" 'Recognize that these were men
Whom power could not corrupt,
Whom death could not terrify,
Whom defeat could not dishonor;
And let their virtues plead for just judgment
Of the cause in which they perished.

" 'Remember,
That their State taught them
How to live and how to die,
And that from her broken fortunes
She has left to her children
The one priceless legacy of their memories;
Teaching all who may
Claim the birthright

That
Truth, Courage, and Patriotism
Endure forever.' "

"In the weird and mythical tales found in Eastern poetry, there is one in particular referring to the strange and wonder-

ful tree upon whose branches grew golden apples, and silver bells, and whenever a breeze shook the fragrant branches, a shower of golden apples would fall, and the bells would chime and tinkle forth their sweetest sounds.

"In our hearts there is such a tree, loaded down with fragrant fruit, and tinkling bells of sweetest memories, and whenever the chimes of other ages, and other nations are wafted over the breezes, our tinkling bells in whisperings sweet, will vibrate upon Southern hearts with its cadence soft and low—it will tell of America's grandest epoch—it will tell that the old South has left a heritage to this younger generation that will cast a halo of glory around them that will sweeten their lives in spite of every effort to obliterate the memory—yea, like the sandal wood, it will sweeten the ax that attempts to destroy it. It will tell, too, of another reason why we know we were right—it will whisper of the twinkling stars, whose refulgent rays so often shed brightness over our darkened ways. When these sweet memories are wafted back to us, we almost wish that Endymion like we, could acquire the faculty of always being young, but there would be one serious objection to this perversion of nature's laws—for were we always young, the sweet girls of the Confederacy, who sang to us, 'Cheer, boys, cheer, you are marching on to victory,' and who sometimes gave us the good-bye kiss and said 'God Bless You,' this glorious element behind the throne would perhaps have been tied down with chains of love that could never be broken or shared with others, but God in His great wisdom, knew best our wants and He has blessed us with powers of sweet memories, and a love within us that buds, and blooms for a glorious environment; hence, the memory of that sublime Southern womanhood is ours to cherish, and the love of these superb women and sweet girls, fit representatives of that pure, and immaculate race fills our hearts to overflowing. Yes!

"The Rebel boys, when young and gay,
Earned naught save frowns from girls they loved;
And he who dared at home to stay,
Met just deserts, and quickly moved;
And now, when these old boys are gray,
Their hearts are filled with tenderest love,
With memories which will ever stay,
And for these we'll thank our God above.'"

Major F. L. Richardson, of this History Committee, then read a historical paper on Camp "Moore," and those who attended there in 1861, as follows:

CAMP MOORE,

And Those Who Tented There in 1861.

New Orleans, La., September 20, 1910.

"A recent visit to this old camp ground, recalled to mind the many who gathered there in 1861, in the gray uniform of the young Confederacy, to train for the great conflict then coming on. They were all young men, we would now look upon them as mere boys. They were of all classes, sons of rich men, poor men, the hardy laborer, the delicate school boy, 'Duke's sons, Cok's sons, Sons of a Hundred Earles.' They came there in companies, headed by their captains and lieutenants. Each man, proud of his own company, and thinking no man equal to his captain. He had a vague idea of what actual war meant, but there was a prevailing idea that there would be actual hand to hand fighting, and in most instances, long knives and dirks were carried. These are still to be seen in many of the daguerreotypes taken at the camp to send back home. The belief was also general that one man was equal to seven Yankees. They were confirmed in this by the war orators of that day. The newspapers told them the same thing—strange to say, this was about the proportion of their enemy to them, as the war drew to a close.

"There was another idea, among these young soldiers, that had arrived here, without the slightest knowledge of a soldier's life, in the camp, on the march, and on the battlefield. This was, that the officers and soldiers of the ranks, would be on an equality. It was soon learned that they tented and lived apart—one ordered, the other obeyed. Another thing learned was that the soldier, no matter how wealthy, could not have his servant to wait upon him, but had to do his share of the camp work in person.

"The company was the military family, in which each one lived, and was the limit of his acquaintance, until later, when common danger, guard duty, and labor on breast works, brought together the men of other companies, and there began to be a comradeship among them.

"It also took a long time to become accustomed to wearing the heavy gray uniforms made of part wool—at that time light khaki uniform had not been thought of. His captain, at

first, was the greatest man he knew of, and it did not seem possible that any foe could resist his company with this great chieftain at its head. When ten of these companies, with one hundred each, were made into a regiment with a colonel commanding, and drilled in a solid body, they felt a regimental esprit de corps.

"To the colonel was paid royal homage; and he received the salutes of the captains, and all below him, as he passed. In front of his tent a soldier walked his post, day and night.

"When he arrived at the seat of war, the soldier found that his regiment was put into a brigade, composed of three other regiments with a brigadier general in command, and three of these latter, were made into a division, and three of these into an army corps, and three or more of these into a great army, commanded by a full general. The pride he felt in his company and captain, was extended to the great army, of which he formed a small part.

"To the armies of the West, in north Mississippi, and east Tennessee, and of northern Virginia, these men who trained at Camp Moore, took up their march. What they did would take many volumes to relate. Each Southern State had a Camp Moore, with a different name.

"The general government has published 144 volumes, each general of an army, Robert E. Lee excepted; many of the corps and divisions, have published their accounts, and they fill the book shelves of those of us, of the old days, that take a sad pleasure in reviewing the history of times that tried men's souls.

"There is too much detail among them for the busy man to read. They will be useful for a future Gibbon or McCauley. I have thought it would be interesting to tell to one of those old companies to which the writer belonged, which set out from Camp Moore in sixty-one; for what is a great army, but a contribution of companies—not even details of these can be written:

"The first rise of the curtain, which showed the drama and tragedy of war, was in the Hornet's Nest, at Shiloh. Here was the first shock of battle, and life's high hopes of many ended in a moment. Many manly forms, that bore bright bayonets, lay stretched upon that bloody ground.

"Over that field that evening the writer passed, looking for lost comrades. As far as the sight could reach on the ridge, and in the valley, men in all positions, lay the dead, and the dying—over them, shadows of night spread like a

great vulture, with outstretched wings, blood dropping from every feather. Witness them again at Murphysboro, when ordered into the charge at Stoneriver, with their brigade, commanded by their old Colonel, Randell Gibson. On receiving the order from John C. Breckenridge, Major General Commanding Division, the Brigade Commander ordered his officers around him, told them of the order which meant destruction, made them a farewell speech, saying, among other things, 'Louisiana expected every man to do his duty.'

"Each commander was given a point towards which to rush. The artillery covered the advance with heavy shelling. The Thirteenth Regiment met the enemy at the angle of the crossing railroads. They rose from behind them, as they came and poured volleys of shot into their ranks, rushed in, came to close quarters, had a mix up, and seized the arms in the hands of many who would not surrender. The loss of life was heavy, seventeen officers killed, and wounded. There were nine left of the old company; many had been taken prisoners, and remained there until the close of the war.

"Witness them, at Chicamauga, Peachtree Creek, Jonesboro, at Franklin, and Nashville. At this last battle, when General Hood ordered the retreat, the Louisiana troops were ordered upon the rear guard, and this regiment, with but a small remnant of those that had trained at Camp Moore, were to the rear of these. The enemy's cavalry came down upon them with uplifted sabers. The rain had wet their percussion caps. They defended themselves with bayonets. A sergeant of the regiment, having lost his bayonet, was ordered by his adversary to throw down his gun; this he did, but attempted to take it up again, when he was sabered down to the shoulder. The remnant of the command was saved by Forest Cavalry, and Fenner's Battery, who drove back the charging enemy.

"When the surrender came at Meridian, in 1865, there were seventeen of the old regiment to lay down their arms, out of the nine hundred that marched through the streets of New Orleans, with banners flying and bands playing, on their way to train at Camp Moore in 'Sixty-one. Three of the old company.

"The old flag was still there—it was cut in pieces, each taking a small portion. When in Baton Rouge, some years ago, one of the old captains, one of two now living, called the writer aside in his office, and opened a large bible, and showed him that precious relic, which was sacred to him, kept between the leaves of it. Our children must treasure it also.

"Along the winding country roadway, from Meridian, that leads across the Mississippi River to the place, where their homes stood, on the banks of the Teche, two foot-sore and weary boys, the remnant of that company that had perished with its cause, plodded their way homeward, their food given them from the scanty store of the farmer's wife.

"Another fragment of the old regiment, that had covered itself with glory, that had been through the fire, and had come out with a corporal's guard, sought its way to its home in New Orleans. They were taken by water through Lake Pontchartrain, up the New Basin Canal, and marched to the corner of Lafayette and Camp Streets, where they were halted, and ordered 'right face, break ranks.' On turning to seek their homes, policemen arrested them, charging them with wearing Confederate uniforms in violation of a city ordinance. Kind citizens came up at once, and gave them citizens' clothes. None came to place garlands on their heads, no band of music played patriotic airs, no chosen orator told of their patriotic deeds, and bid them welcome back after four years given in their country's service.

"Another one of the old company was coming back from Alexandria, where the fortunes of war had found him at its close. He saw the victors in that strife come up in their battleships, with bands playing, colors flying, and cannon booming.

"As he turned homeward bound, he saw the sun set red in the west, typical of the four years of blood ystrife, on which it set forever.

"Little did he think that, in a few years, he would see that sun rise again on a land redeemed from the spoiler's heel, that the soldier, whose ranks were broken, fortune shattered, would take up arms again, and drive them out, and free his country from the rule of the ex-slave, and alien usurper.

"In the end they tasted the fruits of victory, when they saw their children, and their children's children enjoying the blessing of a government of their own people, and prosperity greater than was ever before enjoyed.

"Almost half a century has passed since those stirring times.

"Men who trod their way homeward, and saw that red sunset, still live. Some have become law makers in the national halls of Congress; some have taken their set in the Nation's Presidential Cabinet; others have been placed upon the Nation's Supreme Tribunal, and some have commanded her army. In

the Hall of Fame, in the Nation's Capitol, there has been placed the marble form of the leader of that great host, Robert E. Lee. For what these men did; for the blood they shed; has not some reward come to them? Greater than all these, they have the love of their countrymen, the approval of their own conscience in their old age, that they have fought the good fight, and life's battle has at last been won.

"Snice those days, a monument has been erected on this old camp ground, in commemoration of those Sons of Louisiana, who went out to battle, and laid down their lives in her cause. Few of them are buried on this spot. In the words of the poet, where,

" 'On fame's eternal camping ground,
Their silent tents are spread,
While glory guards with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead.' "

"Should not there be another erected, to her who inspired him to do such deeds, and won for him much great renown, who nerved him to sacrifice of life on his country's altar? Who, like the faithful vestal, kept the light burning, and endured the long vigil, until the war drum should be heard no more.

"When sick, and wounded, she was at his side; when the field was left without the master hand, she was there to till it; when the children, and aged were left without his care, she took his place, and fought the wolf from the door.

"In remembrance of her, I would select some fair plain, and plant upon it fairest flowers, the white to typify her purity; the red, the courageous fire, which she kindled in his breast. In the midst of it I would erect a lofty shaft. On one corner of its base, there would be her marble figure, with the soldier in his childhood, upon her knee, instilling high ideas to guide him in after life; upon another corner, a figure of a woman would represent her strewing flowers in remembrance of the fallen; another corner would represent her with hand over eye, peering through the distance, with lamy by her side, waiting, and watching for the soldier's return; on the fourth corner, she would be represented with arms supporting the wounded soldier. Upon the top of the shaft I would have her standing, pointing aloft to that heaven, to which the warrior's banner has taken its flight. Upon its base there, I would have inscribed the words:

“ ‘The Woman of the South;
Remember Her.’ ”

“Half a century, lacking one year, has passed since this ground was first made into a soldier's training camp. But few survive, who were leaders of men at this day. The gray heads of these few show the flight of time. The men who now govern and occupy our Legislature Halls, are the sons and grandsons of these. Our State, through them, has purchased this land, placed headstones over the soldiers' graves, that lie here, and erected a memorial shaft of granite, and on it placed a soldier in his uniform of gray, to represent those who fell while defending her cause, both here and on distant battlefields. A most worthy tribute paid by the sons of their fathers.

“This mark of appreciation of the son's of Louisiana's soldiers should not stop here, but their names should be recorded, and treasured in the State Capital, and a stone should mark each spot on the great battlefield, where they lost their lives, and their bodies laid away in trenches beneath the sod, without even their names being preserved. This is a debt the living owe to the dead.

“The memorial work started at Camp Moore should go on.

“FRANK RICHARDSON.”

The Committee on Resolutions asked to submit the following resolutions with their approval, viz:

Resolution—

By the Committee, on Report of Lieutenant Colonel, L. B. Claiborne, Judge Advocate General:

“*Resolved*, That it be entered on the minutes of this meeting that the legal opinion of Major L. B. Claiborne, sustained, and endorsed General Castleman's course as Major General, which opinion was given in writing to the Adjutant General.”

Comrade A. B. Booth, the Chairman, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was duly seconded, and passed unanimously.

Resolution—

By C. P. Richard, Commander Camp 14, on School Books:

“*Resolved*, That we earnestly endorse, and recommend the resolution offered by our esteemed comrade, Dr. G. H. Tichenor, of New Orleans, already approved by the State Reunion of the U. C. V. at Alexandria, La., in 1909, protesting against the dissimulation of the false history of the United States, distributed to the public schools of our country.”

Comrade A. B. Booth, the Chairman, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was duly seconded, and passed unanimously.

Resolution—

B. C. P. Richard, Commander Camp 14, recommending monument in memory of Brigadier General Alfred Mouton:

“*Resolved*, That we urgently ask that the organizations of the United Confederate Veterans, United Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and all other sympathizing societies, be requested to use their best efforts towards collecting, and raising funds to assist in the erection of the monument to the memory of Brigadier General Alfred Mouton, and the Louisiana Confederate Veterans at Opelousas.”

Comrade A. B. Booth, the Chairman, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was duly seconded, and passed unanimously.

Resolution—

By Comrade A. B. Anderson, of Camp 14, relative to the monument to be erected to the Women of the South:

“*WHEREAS*, at the Mobile Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, in 1910, approved and recognized as set forth in General Orders No. 3, dated June 13, 1910, the committee now in charge of the work of erecting in each Southern State a monument to our glorious women of the Confederacy; and

“*WHEREAS*, the State of Louisiana, by act of the Legislature, at its session of 1910, approved of and encouraged the

movement of erecting in this State a monument in memory of the noble women of the South, commemorating the devotion, fidelity, and self-sacrifice of the women of the South during the 'War between the States,' and granting permission to erect said monument on State property, or elsewhere to be selected, and approving the design of the monument selected by the committee. Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this convention approves and ratifies the action of the U. C. V. Reunion at Mobile, of 1910, as set forth in General Orders No. 3, above set forth, and in the action of the Legislature, at its session of 1910, and do hereby urge and request the earnest support, and hearty co-operation of all the camps and veterans throughout this division, to use every effort to create an interest, and assist in this most worthy object.

"Resolved further, That we do most earnestly urge, and request the co-operation of all Confederate organizations throughout this division, the citizens of our State, and all persons enlisted in this grand movement, to lend their aid, and assistance to the committee in charge.

"Resolved, further, That the selection of Comrade T. W. Castleman, as Chairman of the State Committee, be, and the same is hereby approved, and that a suitable committee to be selected by the commander of the division, and the Chairman of the State Committee, be appointed to assist, and carry out this most worthy enterprise, and that every dignified effort be made to have this monument erected in this State to the women of the Confederacy, who were the heroines, so that future generations may have some evidence of the love, and veneration with which the Confederate soldiers regarded the noble, and self-sacrificing women of their day.

"Resolved, further, That the plan adopted by the committee now in charge, viz: That a day be selected and set aside, to be known as 'Monument Day,' as fully set forth in a circular issued by said committee, be and the Commander of this division is hereby requested to assign the date of same."

Comrade A. B. Booth, the Chairman, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Resolution—

By Comrade M. L. Costley, Camp 9, tendering thanks to Major A. L. Slack, of Camp 1529:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this convention are hereby tendered to Comrade, Major A. L. Slack, of Camp 1529, Tallulah, La., for his untiring energy in collecting, and raising sufficient funds for the purpose of erecting suitable markers on the positions occupied by the Louisiana troops on the battlefield at Vicksburg, a self-sacrificing work with no compensation, except that which comes to the heart of a loyal Confederate, in his devotion to the fame of his fallen comrades."

Comrade A. B. Booth, the Chairman, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

The Major General then introduced the following ladies representing Confederate organizations:

Mrs. M. C. Gottschalk, President Louisiana Division, United Daughters of Confederate Veterans.

Mrs. Anna B. Babin (daughter of our late Past Commander, General O. A. Bullion), State Organizer Louisiana Division, United Daughters of Confederate Veterans.

Mrs. J. Mayer, President of Gordon Chapter, Louisiana Division, United Daughters of Confederate Veterans, of Opelousas.

Miss Alice Juge, an attractive and lovely young lady, read a poem, "The Confederate Soldier," a beautiful dedication to the memory of those who wore the gray, made doubly so by the beautiful manner in which it was recited.

The Commander extended a general invitation to the Veterans to address the convention, and called on Comrade L. B. Claiborne, who responded in an eloquent address, in which he paid a high tribute to the women of the South.

Addresses were also delivered by General A. B. Booth, Major W. W. Whittington, Major R. H. Prosser, and Comrade John N. Ogden, all of which were of an entertaining, and instructive nature, and were listened to with great attention by the veterans and citizens present. It is regretted that their speeches were not reported, so that they could be published in the minutes.

The Commander announced that the election of a new Commander was in order. Major A. B. Anderson, of Camp 14, in an eloquent, and appropriate address, nominated the present Commander, General Thos. J. Shaffer, who vacated the chair, and called General T. W. Castleman to preside. This nomination was seconded by Comrades Tichenor, Claiborne, Whittington, and Prosser. Dr. Prosser, in seconding the nomination of General Shaffer to succeed himself, spoke in a most earnest manner, detailing the circumstances under which young Shaffer joined the First Louisiana Battalion, under the gallant Charlie Dreaux, and went to battle lines in Virginia, in April 1861; and how he served until the war ended in May, 1865.

It was moved by Comrade Anderson, duly seconded, and carried, that the nominations be closed, and that General Shaffer be elected by a rising vote; which was done amidst great enthusiasm.

The President pro-tem. then announced General Thos. J. Shaffer duly elected to succeed himself, and appointed Comrades Booth, and Prosser to conduct him to the chair, and presented to the comrades their new Commander, calling their attention to the unusual honor extended to General Shaffer, as this is the first time in the history of the organization that a Commander ever succeeded himself in this division; showing the respect and confidence which his comrades entertain for him.

General Shaffer, on resuming the chair, seemed deeply affected by the demonstration of the confidence his comrades had in him, and it was some moments before he could trust himself to express to them his feelings, when he spoke as follows:

"My Comrades of the Confederate Army:

"I am absolutely overwhelmed at the demonstration of confidence, and affection you are extending me in making me again the Commander of the Louisiana Division, U. C. V. In accepting this, the highest honor on earth, the like of which no other man in our organization ever had, I cannot find words fitting to tell you how I love you all, and how near my heart you all are.

"My Comrades, I am not deserving of all this honor; to be placed again at the head of our noble organization; I have done nothing to deserve such consideration at your hands. I have only tried to do my duty, as your Commander, and surely a man in my position should not have so much credit for doing his duty. I know what plenty of you could have served the Division equally as well, and as faithfully, but not any more loyally than I have. The concerns for the welfare of the Division has at times been great, but it has been a labor of love to me, and shall continue to be so.

"Although our ranks are rapidly growing thinner every day, our organization is in splendid condition, and the alacrity with which every one of you have responded to the demands made upon you, is indicative of the true and devoted comradeship that exists amongst us. Our organization, since its formation, has done a world of good work in carrying out the historical, and benevolent features of our association. We have had splendid men on our History Committee, who have assiduously stood guard over the vicious and slanderous writings of those who would pervert the truth, and drag down the character of the glorious cause for which we, and our dead comrades fought for from 1861 to 1865. Our historical papers, such as were read at this reunion, will be preserved and handed down to some future historian, who is to write a true and correct account of the War between the States. Many liberal-hearted comrades, whom fortune has been kinder to than to some others of us, have not neglected to aid and assist in many ways, those who are sick, homeless and helpless. I need only point to the magnificent Soldiers' Home in the city of New Orleans; splendidly equipped and managed for the benefit of those whose good fortune it is to enter its doors; there, the splendid women of our land make almost daily visits, their hearts laden with all the sweet consolation that brings comfort and peace to the lonely hearts of those who dwell within, but their never tiring hands go filled with all the delicacies for bodily comfort. After I was made Commander of the Division at Alexandria, the sad and deplorable condition of many of our poor and decrepid comrades, came under my observation, and so appealed to me that I determined to do my best, to procure the balance of the pension money voted by the people of our State in 1906. I invited my personal staff to go with me to Baton Rouge, and go before the Governor, and the last regular session of our Legislature, and see if we could not get the money that actually belonged to those of our comrades who had been

found entitled to a pension. My staff responded with alacrity, filled with the importance of our mission. We met the Governor in his office, and presented our case, and he promised us his every assistance. We went before the Appropriation Committee, Speaker G. L. Dupre kindly holding the house in adjournment until we had presented our case to the committee. As Commander of the Division, I addressed the committee, and said, 'Gentlemen of the Appropriation Committee, I am here to-day, representing the Association of United Confederate Veterans, Which I consider the grandest organization on earth. To be the head of an association, composed of the remnants of those gallant regiments that went forward to do battle for Louisiana in 1861, I consider more honor than to hold the highest political office in the land. I would rather be the Commander of the Louisiana Division, U. C. V., than to be a king. Gentlemen, we are not before you to-day to ask or beg you for a single cent; but, Sirs, we are here to demand at your hands, in a respectful manner, what the State of Louisiana owes to our poor old comrades, in the shape of pensions. I know you will plead poverty for the State, telling us there is no money; but, gentlemen, if the Legislature had not created so many useless boards and commissions, with their many high-priced officials, and in other ways squandered the people's money, there would have been sufficient money to pay this just obligation to these poor old soldiers, who gave up their young manhood, and everything else on earth they possessed, to do battle in defense of Louisiana's honor.'

"I told them that the State had not been just to the Confederate soldier, and it was as little as the State could do now to pay these men the little miserable sum which she owed them. I told them the conditions were urgent in the extreme, and would admit of no further delay, because, unless we could get it at once, it would hardly be of any use to them, as they were passing away fast; that it would only be a short time when the State would have no more pensions to pay.

"To my surprise, my talk was well received, and there was not a member of the Legislature whom I spoke to about the matter, but what pledged me his hearty co-operation in my effort to get this pension money. And told me to prepare a bill for the relief of our comrades. With the assistance of my staff, we drew a bill, which was passed, and is now before the people, looking to an additional tax of one-fifth of a mill, for the purpose of raising money enough for the balance of the pension money allowed under the Constitution, and I believe this bill, which is to be voted on at the general election on

November 8th, will be adopted by a large majority vote; and I am assured by the Governor, and other State officials that as soon as the measure is endorsed by the people, the Board of Liquidation can borrow this money, so that it will become available at once. So that the means of the nine hundred and odd of our old comrades, who have been on the waiting list so long, can at once be put on the pension rolls. If, in this effort, I have done one thing that will bring one moment of comfort or relief to a single one of our dear old comrades, I thank God that He has given me strength to do it. I shall, during my coming administration, keep up the necessary vigilance that may be required to not only see that the pension money is fairly, and promptly disbursed, but shall, with your aid, my comrades, see if the sacred debt that Louisiana owes to her soldiers of 1861 cannot be paid in a much more liberal, and generous amount.

"Some time ago the idea suggested itself to me that we Veterans should know, more ultimately, the Daughters of the Confederacy, and understand more of the magnificent work that these splendid women are carrying on for us. So I conceived the idea that there would be no better way for us to bring about this much desired object, than for the Veterans to write the Daughters to hold their annual reunions and conventions at the same time, and place that we, and the United Sons of Confederate Veterans hold our reunions and conventions; so I addressed an official communication to each camp, asking their views about the matter, and I am glad to inform you that it was the unanimous voice of all the camps that I should extend such an invitation to the Daughters, as such a move met with their hearty approval. I at once addressed a communication to Mrs. Edward Gottschalk, President of the State Organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, explaining to her our desire, and she at once made her chapters acquainted with the plan, and after getting a most favorable reply from nearly all the chapters in the State, she informed me officially that our invitation had been accepted, and that hereafter the U. D. C. would meet in same place, and at same time, to hold their annual reunion and convention, that the U. C. V., and U. S. C. V. met. So that, from now on, all three of these Confederate organizations will meet at same place, and time, and thereby can enjoy all the social features of the occasions, and become better acquainted with each other, and consequently we will aid each other in our noble work.

"The U. S. C. V. have received at my hands all the encouragement possible, and they are here to-day with us in

stronger force than usual. Comrades, let us encourage the U. S. C. V. in their noble work to perpetuate the memory of their fathers.

"The Commander of the Division can find plenty of good work to do, in keeping the organization in good shape. It would be a splendid thing if your Commander was blessed sufficiently with money, so that he might visit every camp in the State. Keeping them well informed of the condition of the organization, and what was going on in the Division; a visit from the Commander would encourage our comrades to take interest in keeping up their camps, and doing the good work before us. I am glad to report that I have had the pleasure of visiting a good many camps, and have the satisfaction of having reorganized several camps that had almost disbanded. I shall do my best to keep up this work during my coming administration.

"Comrades, as we part from each other, returning to our homes, from this, our harmonious and happy reunion, let us pray to the Great Master that all of us may be permitted to meet again, at our next reunion, to once more look each other in the eye, and clasp the hand of true comradeship, and may our hearts respond every time to any comrade in trouble or need, with that feeling that is known to none but soldiers who have shared mutual dangers, and trials, on the weary and tire-some march, and on the merciless firing line.

"I shall do the best I can to serve you faithfully as your Commander, and if I can have your strength, and loyal support, which you so faithfully gave me during my last administration, for this, my coming one, I know I will not fail to take care of the Louisiana Division.

"Thanking you again for the great honor you have conferred upon me, and wishing you, and your dear ones all the joy, and happiness possible, I will say, God bless you all."

NEXT REUNION.

On motion, duly seconded and carried, it was ordered that the time and place for holding our next annual reunion and convention be left to the discretion of the Commander of the Division.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO CITIZENS OF OPELOUSAS.

By Comrade M. L. Costley, Camp 9, tendering thanks:

"WHEREAS, our entertainment in Opelousa has been so universally participated in by the people of that beautiful, and historic city, that to attempt to individualize would require a census of her beautiful women, and loyal men; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That our most sincere thanks, and heartfelt appreciation be expressed to the committees in charge, the organized associations, and the people at large, for the splendid reception, and most enjoyable entertainment of our comrades at this reunion.

"Resolved, further, That they will ever have a place in our memory, and in our hearts, and that thanks and appreciation are due to Mr. G. H. Cretin, and his wife, for the splendid reception extended to our Commander, and his staff, and our comrades in general, and that our thanks are also justly extended to all the hostesses of this city."

The above resolution was passed unanimously.

NOTICE OF PARADE.

Commander Shaffer notified the convention that a grand parade would take place at 2 o'clock P. M., and all Veterans are expected to join it. The Commander also gave notice that the Arrangement Committee had perfected all the arrangements to entertain all the veterans and their ladies, at a splendid ball to be given at the Auditorium, to commence at 8:30 P. M., and all were most cordially invited to attend, and enjoy the pleasures of the evening.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, the Twentieth Annual Convention of the U. C. V. (the most happy and harmonious ever held by the division), adjourned *sine die*.

THE PARADE.

Great interest was taken in the parade, and, indeed, it was the most inspiring, and impressive part of the reunion, with several bands of splendid music, and with the booming of

cannons, the parade started with General Shaffer, and Governor Sanders, with several members of their respective staffs, riding at the head of the columns; following in line were a large number of Veterans, Sons of Veterans, and United Daughters of the Confederacy, than on former occasions. A special feature of the parade was a large number of beautiful women and children, dressed in red, white and red, representing the Confederate colors—riding on floats. A large crowd of people filled both sides of the streets along the line of march, and seemed filled with real joy and much enthusiasm.

The city was profusely and handsomely decorated with the Confederate colors, and presented a martial appearance.

THE BALL.

The most attractive feature of this reunion was the splendid ball given at the Auditorium. The hall was handsomely decorated with Confederate flags, beautiful palms, ferns, and flowers.

The ball opened with the grand march to the strains of dear old "Dixie," and was led by Major General Shaffer, with the Sponsor of the Louisiana Division, Miss Andrepont, a most graceful and beautiful daughter of Opelousas; and in the march could be seen only veterans, each one with some beautiful woman, forgetting everything else but the days of long ago, when he, in reality, was young.

After the march the floor was reserved for the veterans who were not slow in procuring their partners, and danced the Virginia reel, showing at times that they had not forgotten the shuffle back step, or even the old "breakdown."

Seldom have the veterans been so gayly entertained, and never has there been collected together such a galaxy of rare beauty, and grace, as honored the Confederate soldiers of the Louisiana Division, United Confederate Veterans, in Opelousas. And long shall we remember our visit to the Queen City of the Attakapas.

M. L. COSTLEY, JP

Assistant Adjutant General.